

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 SCI-06 NASA-04

AGR-20 RSR-01 /175 W

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P R 251210Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5493

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TANANARIVE 1001

E. O. 11652: DECON 7/25/75

TAGS: PFOR, MA, US

SUBJ: AMERICANO-MALAGASY RELATIONS

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN EXCHANGE VIEWS HEAD OF GOVT GEN RAMANANTSOA AND I AGREED US-MALAGASY RELATIONS DEVELOPING WELL. HE BROUGHT UP AID NEEDS, AS WELL AS VANILLA PRICING PROBLEM ARISING FROM DROP IN VALUE OF DOLLAR. I POINTED TO FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AID AND OUR DESIRE FOR NON-DISCRIMINATORY MALAGASY IMPORT REGIME. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING FORMAL PRESENTATION OF MOON ROCK TO MALAGASY HEAD OF GOVT GEN RAMANANTSOA 25JUL, I HAD OPPORTUNITY FOR TALK WITH HIM. COMMENTING THAT THIS IS A RED LETTER DAY IN AMERICAN-MALAGASY RELATIONS SINCE SEC AND FONMIN RATSIRAKA ALSO SCHEDULED MEET TODAY IN WASH, I EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT WAY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE DEVELOPED OVER PAST YEAR.

2. GEN RAMANANTSOA RESPONDED WITH SIMILAR EXPRESSION OF PLEASURE, AND ADDED HOPE (AS IS HIS WONT) THAT WE WOULD GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO NEED OF MADAGASCAR AS POOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY FOR AID. I REFERRED TO SCHEDULED SIGNATURE TODAY OF TELECOMMUN-
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ICATIONS LOAN, ADVANCED STAGE OF CONSIDERATION OF RAILROAD LOAN

(FOR WHICH US PREPARED CONSIDER MALAGASY REQUEST RAISE AMOUNT IN QUESTION FROM \$2.5 TO \$3.0 MILLION), AND CONVERSATION I HAD JUST HAD WITH MIN ECON & FINANCE ABOUT ROGEZ HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT.

3. I THEN SAID THAT, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW ADVERSE US BALANCE PAYMENTS, WE SEEKING MALAGASY APPLICATION TO US EXPORTS OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY REGIME SIMILAR TO US POLICY GOVERNING MALAGASY EXPORTS. SINCE THIS ECONOMIC SUBJECT NOT SURPRISINGLY OUTSIDE GEN'S NORMAL WN, HE ASKED THAT I TAKE IT UP WITH MIN ECON & FINANCE. I TOLD HIM I HAD JUST DONE SO (SEPTEL BEING SENT), BUT WANTED TO MENTION IT TO HIM AS WELL.

4. GEN THEN PROCEEDED RAISE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF VANILLA EXPORT PRICE ARISING FROM DECLINE IN VALUE OF DOLLAR. I TOLD GEN THAT MIN ECON & FINANCE HAD RAISED IT WITH ME EARLIER 25JUL, AND I HAD PROMISED TRANSMIT IT TO WASH FOR CONSIDERATION (ALSO SEE SEPTEL).

5. GEN CLOSED BY ASKING THAT US GIVE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO INTERESTS AND PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY LIKE MADAGASCAR. I NOTED THAT AID AND PROPOSED GENERALIZED PREFERENCES ARE DESIGNED TO DO JUST THAT. MENDENHALL

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